

THE WHITE HOUSE

REFER TO DOS

WASHINGTON

January 16, 1974

DOS reviewed. Unclassified. Release in full

Dear Mr. President:

The Apollo lunar landing program conducted by the United States has been brought to a successful conclusion. Men from the planet Earth have reached the first milestone in space. But as we stretch for the stars, we know that we stand also upon the shoulders of many men of many nations here on our own planet. In the deepest sense our exploration of the moon was truly an international effort.

It is for this reason that, on behalf of the people of the United States I present this flag, which was carried to the moon, to the people of the Republic of Portugal, and this fragment of the moon obtained during the final lunar mission of the Apollo program.

If people of many nations can act together to achieve the dreams of humanity in space, then surely we can act together to accomplish humanity's dream of peace here on earth. It was in this spirit that the United States of America went to the moon, and it is in this spirit that we look forward to sharing what we have done and what we have learned with all mankind.

Sincerely,



His Excellency  
Admiral Americo Deus Rodrigues Thomaz  
President of the Republic of Portugal  
Lisbon



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 10, 1974

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Moon Rock Presentation

The Apollo 17 moon rock presentation for Portugal will be scheduled in the very near future, after the arrival of Ambassador S. N. Scott in Lisbon. The original Presidential letter, dated May 30, 1973, was overtaken by the event of Ambassador Knight's departure. We request an identical text letter be prepared but dated in January 1974 to avoid any potential embarrassment to our new ambassador.

The Embassy in Lisbon will be directed to return the letter of May 30 when the replacement is forwarded.

The addressee is Admiral Americo Deus Rodriques Thomaz, President of the Republic of Portugal, Lisbon. The salutation should be: "Dear Mr. President."

*for Paul H. Blanchard*  
Thomas R. Pickering  
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Letter from Lisbon,  
November 12, 1973

UNCLASSIFIED



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Lisbon

November 12, 1973

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL  
UNCLASSIFIED

Thomas G. Martin, Esquire  
Department of State  
EUR/IB  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom:

\*  
Rui Brito e Cunha called USIS a week ago regarding the moonrock and Presidential letter which, as you know, have not yet been presented to President Thomaz.

Brito e Cunha wanted to pass along informally the view of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Section that President Thomaz generally does not receive Chargés, and the suggestion that we await the arrival of the new Ambassador. One of his first ceremonial tasks would then be the personal presentation of the moonrock to the President.

We feel that this approach is reasonable, but are uncomfortable with the idea of the new Ambassador presenting a letter six to seven months old. (The original is dated May 30.)

Could you look into the chances of getting another letter out of the White House, one appropriately dated to coincide with the Ambassador's arrival? If this proves impossible, then we will consider other alternatives.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

*Wingate*  
Wingate Lloyd

\*now in charge of the  
Europe-America Section  
of the Foreign Ministry